The Hungarian Colony of Esterhazy, Assiniboia, North-west Territories, Canada

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Letters from the Settlers
and Illustrations
from
Photographs
taken on the Spot
in the month of July, 1902

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OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1902

TO

THE PIONEER HUNGARIAN SETTLERS

OF

THE ESTERHAZ COLONY,

ASSINIBOIA, DOMINION OF CANADA,

WHO LABOURED FAITHFULLY, BUT NOT IN VAIN,

FOR THE HONOUR OF THEIR NATIONALITY

AND PROSPERITY OF THEIR FAMILIES,

THIS WORK

IS CORDIALLY DEDICATED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

Eljen a Magyar!



Geo. Marjo. S. Lovasz. S. Bartok. M. Szikora. J. Laczko. J. Szmerekovszky. (last row).
P. Kristof. S. Veres. J. Petrick. A. Goniczgy. P. Borilla. F. Toth. J. Hornyak. (3rd row).
L. Nagy. M. Kutncz. J. Pilesák. S. Baráth. Geo. Nagy. M. Bernat. (Sitting on bench).
(Sitting on ground). J. Lengyel. J. Janoczko. J. Brunyánszky. S. Pilesák.

THE PIONEER SETTLERS OF THE ESTERHAZ COLONY. 1885 to 1888.

THE ESTERHAZ COLONY

AS IT WAS, AND IS NOW

1885-1902

Townships 18, 19a, 19 and 20. Ranges 1, 2, 3 and 4, West 2nd Meridian,

ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

"NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS."

Not very far from the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba, the flourishing and beautiful metropolis of the Canadian West, and about 25 miles north of Whitewood*, Assiniboia, a thriving town with a passenger and freight station on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, lies on a plateau about 450 feet above the picturesque Qu'Appelle river valley, one of the most fertile tracts of land in the world.

One bright but sultry day, in the month of June, 1885, four travellers in two conventional buggies, apparently well equipped for an extended exploring enterprise, were speeding their tired teams on the furrowed road wending its almost endless course through the broad lands of the Qu'Appelle valley towards its ascent on the northern slope; the road there becomes steep and rocky, with many confusing turns, alternating in magnificent

* *See* photographic views, pages 49 and 50.

panoramas. It was in those days the only highway which afforded access to the land lying above it. And to reach and explore this was the aim of our travellers.

One of the party to whose lot it fell to direct the expedition, furnishes the present observations.

Two immense plains were found, lying at different elevations, both presenting their broad areas to the sun by gently inclining towards the south, and intersected in various directions by ranges of wooded hills, by which many beautiful valleys were formed.

All that has been chronicled by a renowned historian of the ideal scenery, grand natural attractions, and productiveness of the soil of Hungary, lends needful inspiration in fitly describing the attractiveness and resources of the new home and country of the Magyar in Western Canada. The soil of this land, though varied in character, is everywhere deep and rich. Many of its hills are arable; its numerous prairies are composed of a black or brown mould, and find their parallels only in the Hungarian wheat lands of the Banat. Of these a writer (Paget) says: 'The same crops are here repeated year after year on the same spot; the ground is only once turned up to receive the seed; a fallow is unknown; manure is never used, but is thrown away as injurious, and yet, with the greatest care and labour, in other places I never saw such abundant produce as illtreated, unaided Nature here bestows upon her children.'

In a land of such beauty and fertility husbandry amply repays the toil of man.

During the winter months the country is blessed with that peculiarly healthful, elastic, bracing atmosphere so common to the higher latitudes, which gives such a buoyancy and vigour to the mind and body. The climate in summer approaches nearly to that of Italy; the flowery and fruitful country is warmed and lighted by an Italian sun, fanned by Italian breezes, and

canopied by the pure cerulean of an Italian sky. Such a country, it will be at once acknowledged—of such fertility, abounding with such a variety of resources, characterized by such a climate and left to the undisturbed and grateful task of developing and multiplying its own means of individual and social happiness—possesses enormous attractions. Here a free, industrious people will find a happy, prosperous existence, and agriculture, so long baffled by the stubbornness of other soils and climes, will reach perfection, scatter flowers upon every valley, wind every hill with vines and pour its cereal treasures around the hearthstones of every home. Here, in this land, on the plains before referred to, the Esterhaz Colony was founded in the month of June, 1886; the first settlers, about 35 Hungarian families—150 souls—having taken possession of homesteads selected in the year 1885 and reserved since for that purpose, each comprising 160 acres of free government land, under the provisions of the Dominion Government Land Act. In spite of many reverses experienced by the settlers in the earlier period of the life of the colony, it has now assumed considerable proportions, and a number of Hungarian immigrants from the old country and the United States have also established themselves in a district called 'Kaposvar,' adjacent to the mother colony. All have united in making this settlement a success; an unfailing source of maintenance for their families, and an unassailable stronghold of their safety; an ideal place for the enjoyment of rural life. And there is yet enough arable, rich land available within the territory of this colony to accommodate many thousands of families, grand opportunities being offered, which, if accepted, will insure them a happy home and a prosperous future, provided honesty and industry mark the character of the settler.

When, in the month of May, 1885, His Excellency the Marquess of Lansdowne, then Governor General of the Dominion of Canada, granted an audience to the author of this booklet, on

which occasion the proposition was submitted to His Excellency to colonize the lands in question with Hungarian immigrants, farmers and farm labourers of that nationality, the question was asked whether the Magyars as a class can be looked upon as a desirable acquisition to the communities of the Canadian North-west, the following historical record as to the characteristics of this people was presented in response: The moral sentiments of the Magyar are of the highest order. He is too proud to be dishonest, low or mean. He is governed at all times by a high sense of what is right and just. As a master he is careful, kind and generous. As a subject he is fixed, resolute, unyielding to what is wrong. If rich, he is profuse in his expenses, elevated in his tastes, liberal in his charities. If poor, his pride will not suffer him to complain, while his general demeanour cannot be distinguished from the wealthiest baron in the land. In all the relations of domestic life, as a husband, father, brother, son, he is unimpeachable in his conduct, or follows every aberration with dignified regret. His hospitality is unbounded; whether rich or poor he receives his visitors with joy and dismisses them with unwillingness. In religion he is sincere, devout, but never contentious or fanatical. The liberty which in all things he demands for himself he freely accords to all others. Freedom indeed is the word which concentrates in itself the whole life and being of a Magyar.

Nothing more needs to be said of this colony and its people. Certain results which have been attained by their honest efforts and marvellous endurance are here illustrated by photographic views quite recently taken, to the extent of the camera's capacity, such as their dwelling houses, farm yards with stables and outhouses, their fields standing rich in crops, &c. The showing also of the successful progress made by many other settlers had to be here omitted owing to the limited space allotted to avoid overcrowding the booklet.

Brief sketches of their own experiences and impressions, written by themselves over their respective names, are contributed by some of the settlers. These will tend to attest, if necessary, the correctness of the particulars related in this connection by the author. Especial notice is deserving the highly interesting statement made by Rev. F. Woodcutter, parish priest of Esterhaz Colony, now residing at Kaposvar. (*See* photographic view of parochial residence, page 14.)

A nucleus of a new Hungarian colony contiguous to Esterhaz and to be named 'Szent Istvan,' or 'Saint Stephen,' in honour of the sainted first king of Hungary, is now in course of formation, with a post office applied for and to be located near the proposed site of the station on the new branch line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, now under way of construction.

From the most reliable information recently obtained, the new branch road referred to, running from a point near Kirkella on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, about 100 miles north and north-west, to serve the colonies lying north of the Qu'Appelle valley, with stations and town sites located at intervals of eight miles from each other, will be open for passenger traffic, and the transportation of the products of the colonies to the nearest markets, in the latter part of the present year. (*See* photo, page 57.)

It may be mentioned in conclusion that a large, commodious tent for the temporary shelter of arriving immigrants has been erected near the parochial residence at Kaposvar, and it is hoped that the Dominion Government will cause a permanent immigration house to be built on the site of the proposed station, 'Esterhazy.'

It should also be known that the Rev. F. Woodcutter, parish priest, has assumed charge of the affairs of Hungarian immigration for and the allotment of homesteads to land-seekers in the Hungarian colonies; all letters therefore calling for further

information should be addressed to him at Kaposvar, Assiniboia, Canada.

It is contemplated also to erect immediately after the opening of the new branch line, a grist mill, a country store and a hotel, many of the old settlers at Esterhaz and Kaposvar having already applied for town lots in the proposed town of 'Esterhazy,' where they intend building their residences for occupation during the winter season.

The tabulated exhibit of the status of the colony of Esterhaz and of its people, as compiled from statistics of the latest date, will be found interesting as well as instructive.

A map of the townships and sections now occupied by Hungarian settlers, also showing the line of the new branch road of the Canadian Pacific Railway and some of the stations, will, it is hoped, afford and complete all the information looked for by the expectant readers of this booklet.

Tabulated Exhibit of the status of the Esterhaz Colony and of its people, as compiled from latest statistics, dated at Kaposvar, July 19, 1902.

The lands of the Esterhaz Colony, when first selected and reserved in June, 1885, for Hungarian colonization purposes, covered an area of 125,000 acres; of this are now taken up 40,000 acres.

The number of homesteads occupied by families, 200.
Entire population of Esterhaz and Kaposvar, 900 souls.
Land under cultivation and fenced with wire, 14,000 acres.

Buildings:

One church, Roman Catholic, Rev. F. Woodcutter, parish priest.
One parochial residence, built of stone.
Two post offices, Esterhaz and Kaposvar.
Four school-houses, two at Esterhaz, two at Kaposvar.

The following is unincumbered property of the settlers, including certain lands of their homesteads as shown above:—

200 dwelling-houses, with stables, granaries, outhouses, &c.

Produce in 1901:

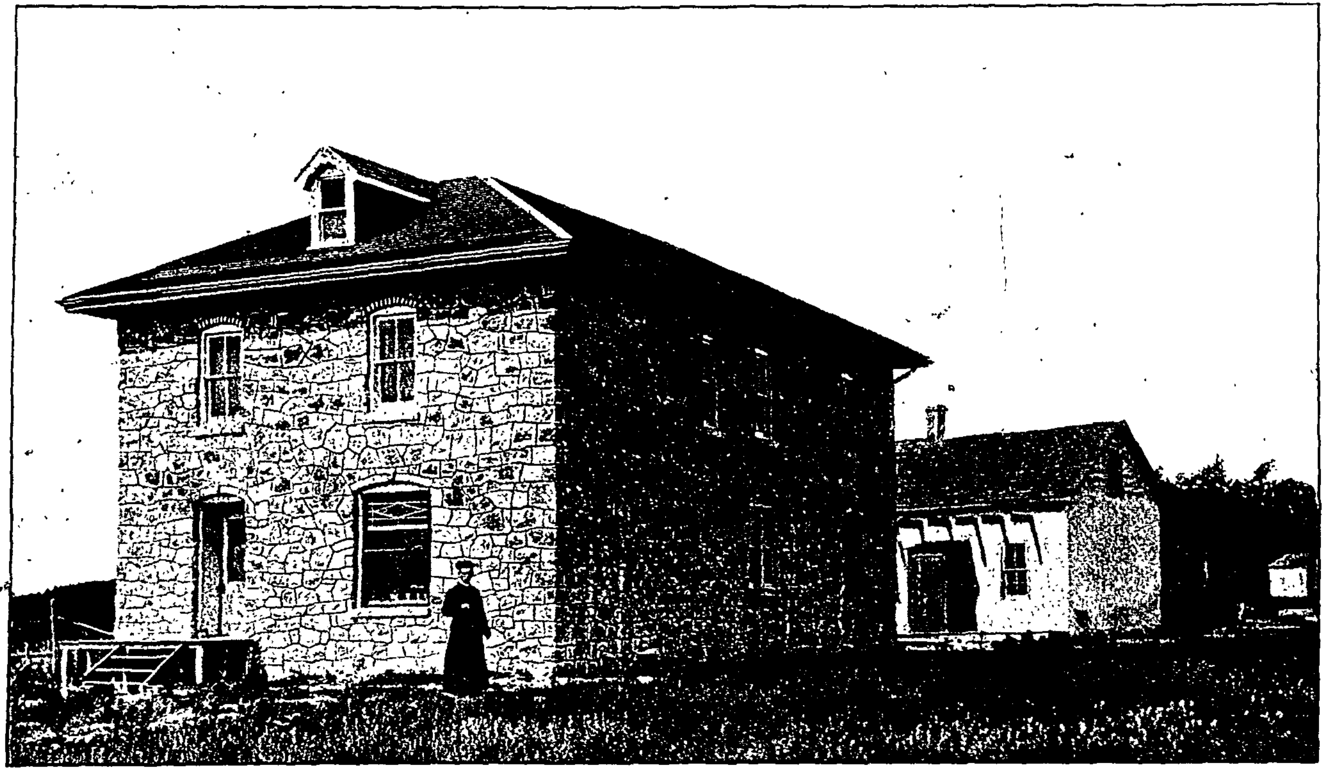
Wheat, 160,000 bushels, sold for cash at the mills.
Oats, rye, barley, 40,000 bushels, sold for cash at the mills.
Potatoes, 20,000 bushels, and every kind of root crops.
Milk, butter and eggs in great quantities, sold to buyers with profit.

Live Stock:

Horned cattle, 2,500 head; horses, 600; hogs, 1,200, and every kind of poultry.

Farm Implements:

Steam thresher, 1; ploughs, 400; binders, 200; wagons and buggies, 200; harness, &c.



Parochial House at Kaposvar. Rev. Father Woodcutter. N.E. ¼ 4, 19, 1, W. 2nd Mer.

WHAT REV. F. WOODCUTTER, PARISH PRIEST, HAS TO SAY ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES IN CANADA, AND ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE ESTERHAZ COLONY, KAPOSVAR POST OFFICE, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA, JULY, 1902.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR POST OFFICE, July, 1902.

Whereas, at present there is a general move in the way of Hungarian emigration to Canada, and whereas, they are circulating so many rumours and reports, mostly wrong about this country, I deem it my duty as parish priest, labouring among, and for the welfare of Hungarian settlers in this great and wealthy country of ours, to avail myself of this opportunity to write a few words as to my experience in Canada and more especially in the North-west Territories and the Colony Esterhaz.

I arrived in Canada twelve years ago, and a year later became acquainted with the Esterhaz Colony, where I then stayed for one and a-half years. In April, 1900, I returned to Esterhaz, taking charge of the parish, and it was a great pleasure to me to notice how marked a difference there was in this colony from the time I left to the date I returned now two years ago. When I arrived here the first time everything was in its infancy only, for most of the new settlers had arrived with little means and a great number without a cent in their pocket, in consequence of which it could not be wondered at that this people had a hard struggle to get on their feet.

All the more was I surprised to find at my return two years ago that this wild country had been transformed into fertile plains, beautiful grain fields, and to see how happy an appearance the people had.

As the beginning was toilsome no wonder that some settlers, less courageous than others, more than once had made up their minds to leave the country and to go back to the land of their fathers, but to-day there is not one who would ever think of going back to Hungary, and why would they ?

There are many reasons for this, some of which I shall now discuss shortly.

First of all, as every male settler of eighteen years and over, and every widow, being head of a family gets 160 acres of good and very productive farm land, partly covered by forest, useful for building purposes and fuel, for which 160 acres only $10 have to be paid to the government. Everybody becomes an independent land-

owner quite different from what they might have been in the old country.

The climate is very healthy, epidemical diseases not being known, which is proved by the great number of aged people who at their high age enjoy extraordinary good health. The summer is of the same temperature as in most of the European countries ; the winter on the other hand is perhaps colder than in some parts of Europe, however, as the cold is very dry one can stand twice the amount of cold as he would be able to endure in Europe where our winters are less cold but very damp, causing a great deal of sickness and deaths. As to the fancy tales of the smoke freezing in the chimneys, and the people dying on the road a few minutes after they had gone outside, these are either straight lies on the part of those who knew better or grave errors on the part of those who know nothing whatever about the country.

Some invented the ghastly story of the people being eaten alive by the Indians, original inhabitants of this country. I defy any one to prove that such thing ever happened since 100 years, i.e., since civilization was introduced here. Not only that the Indians never do any harm to the people, but even they keep away from them as far as possible, as they shun the contact of white people.

Until now a great drawback to our colony was the distance from railway accommodation, this, however, will be done away with as a new branch line is being built this summer in the immediate proximity of our colony. If these people are able to show such success in spite of the long distance from the railroad, what will they be able to show a few years hence ? One good point and reason for the success of our settlers is this, that there has never been a failure of crop, but while in some years the crop was lighter, in others it was above the average.

However, I think it my duty to mention a very important point : Some people are of the opinion that when they go to America or Canada they only need to stoop down and pick up the lumps of gold lying by the roadside. This is a great mistake, for no less than in Europe can one make a living without working, the only difference is this, that whosoever is able and willing to work will be well repaid for it, for wages are very good, affording not only a living to the working man but also leaving him a nice sum to be put by at the end of the year.

As to churches and schools our people do not suffer anything. We have a church where divine service is held every Sunday and holiday ; as I am residing here as parish priest, the people have built a commodious dwelling house for my use.*

We have four school houses that are filled to overcrowding, as there are about 200 children on the roll. The government pays two-thirds of the teachers' salary and the people the balance.

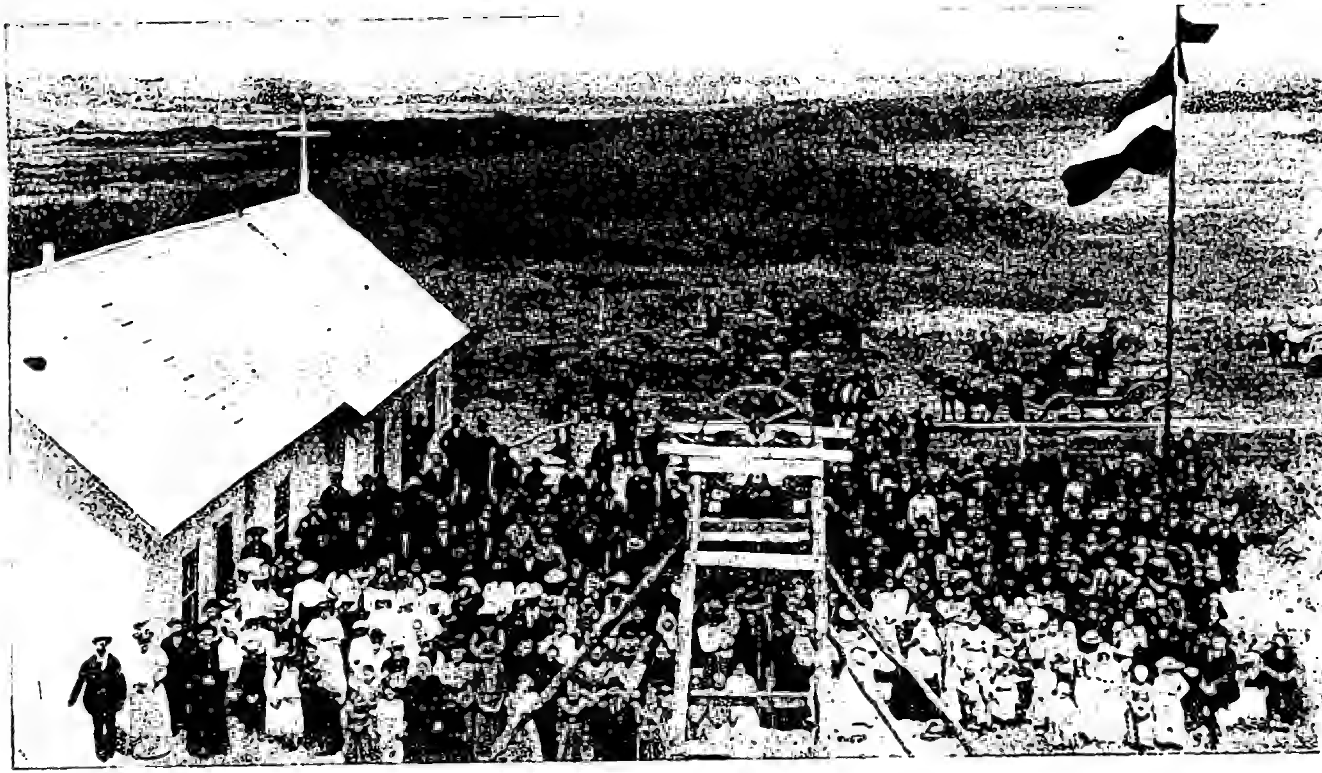
* *See* photographic view, page 14

My parish contains now 800 souls, and judging from the great number of letters I get from intending settlers, this number should be doubled in less than two years. My parishoners are peaceful and law-abiding people, and do not indulge in any habit that might bring disgrace upon their nationality.

On account of the great number of new settlers I expect to arrive during the next year, I hope to see another and possibly several new Hungarian colonies springing up in this neighbourhood. It is not here a question of where to place the new settlers, but it is the question, and to this I devote a good part of my time in the interest of Hungarian settlers, to get as many new settlers as possible.

Let us hope that this description of Canada, though it shows only a few of the advantages of the country, will put this country into the proper light, do away with some false notions entertained by some people, and induce a great many new settlers to arrive and join the happy lot of Hungarian settlers who have now made Canada their permanent home—a home of happiness and prosperity.

F. Woodcutter,
Parish Priest.



After Church Service: the Hungarian Congregation of Esterhaz and Kaposvar, Sunday, July 13, 1902

SOME REMARKS ABOUT THE CANADIAN WEST, PARTICULARLY ABOUT THE ESTERHAZ COLONY, AS CONTRIBUTED BY MR. KOVACSI KALMÀN, MISSIONARY OF THE REFORMED CHURCH OF HUNGARY, AT WHITEWOOD, ASSINIBOIA.

THE MAGYAR IN CANADA.

The area of Canada is greater than that of Europe ; its extent lies in the higher altitudes of North America, and expands from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. In the province named Assiniboia, about the central part of that country called the North-west, there are now living about 300 Hungarian families, who are engaged either in the cattle trade or working in coal mines, but the majority of them in farming pursuits on their own lands of 160 acres, which they obtained from the Dominion Government on payment of $10 for entry fee at the time they became homesteaders and after having fulfilled certain conditions to ownership. Those who are labourers in mines or elsewhere in the country can earn sufficient money to enable them with their savings to build up for themselves and their families dwelling houses and farm yards, and to buy all necessary implements, seeds, &c., for farming purposes. The nearby forests furnish an inexhaustible supply of timber for building and domestic use and for fuel ; and there is plenty of good water in the wells, dug out on their own lands, and in the lakes, rivers and creeks within easy reach of their homesteads.

I wish to remark that I am now speaking particularly of the Esterhaz Colony, including Kaposvàr and Hazelwood, in the direction of which Hungarian immigration seems, in these days, to take its course, even more so than to Manitoba which is a province contiguous to Assiniboia, I have special reference to in this writing.

The people of these colonies are, thanks be to God, in the enjoyment of excellent health ; lung sickness, coughs, colds or epidemic diseases are unknown here, chiefly because of the pure and invigorating atmosphere prevailing throughout the year, which is peculiar to these high altitudes. As for myself I feel in better health now than at any time before my arrival in this country. After the long winter season, and after nature's protracted rest, the warm, lifegiving summer's sun—quickly and almost visibly makes vegetation shoot up its germs in luxuriously blooming and fruit-bearing fields, on the plains, in dales and on the hills of the colony, and in the country

surrounding it. The flora is beautiful, brilliant in colouring, spread profusely all over the land and permeating the atmosphere with its deliciously fragrant perfume. Every kind of game and birds inhabit the woods and fields ; the lakes abound in fish, and wild water fowls in untold numbers are found roosting on every pond, and sport is permissible under restrictions, however, of the game laws. The finest pastures and grazing lands in the world are right here on the vacant sections, and the hay harvest is unsurpassed. Wild beasts or carnivorous animals are unknown in this part of the country. Commencing in April the land is turned up to receive the seed. The harvesting season generally begins in the latter part of August, lasting to the end of September or later. The productiveness of the Canadian soil, of which I am now speaking, is so well known already as not to require to be emphasized here ; I can only repeat saying that every kind of vegetable grows in great abundance and to perfection in the soil. One instance I may here mention will illustrate my assertion : A Mr.s Stephen Baràth, of Kaposvàr, received the highest prize for the exhibit of the finest melon, a product of her own garden, at the several annual agricultural shows at Esterhaz. If a settler tells me that he cannot succeed my uniform and ever ready answer is that the cause of his failure must be traced to some fault of his own, but never to illtreated and unaided nature which otherwise bestows her fruits bountifully upon her children. It often made me happy to notice the good understanding prevailing and the considerate treatment accorded to the servants by their masters ; they partake of their meals at the same family table and share the same clean and commodious rooms of the house.

I wish to speak also of the new branch line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which is now in course of construction near Esterhaz and Kaposvàr ; this line of the road with its new stations and town sites located near the lands reserved for Hungarian colonization purposes is of very great importance to the colony, and of incalculable advantages to the settlers.

There are now several schools in the colony where the English language and other useful object lessons are taught by teachers appointed by the government.

The people are free of taxation, excepting for the school tax, which, however, is very light.

The majority of the population of Esterhaz and Kaposvàr are communicants of the Roman Catholic Church, they have the spiritual care of their parish priest and a house of God. The number of Hungarians of the reformed church, however, is daily increasing, and they are worshiping under my ministration whenever opportunity presents itself for me to do so ; we then make use of the room in the Bohemian school house at Esterhaz, and we trust in an ever-wise dispensation of our Lord's providence that will soon

make it possible to us to build up our own church and school house in that colony. The state pays two-thirds of the teachers' salary.

In conclusion I must say a few words about the youngest of our colonies, viz., Hazelwood : Here the greater part of the Hungarian settlers are members of the reformed church ; they are living peacefully and happily together ; the name of the colony will be changed appropriately to one of our own mother tongue. A church and post office will also be shortly erected and established.

There are now forty families occupying homesteads of 160 acres each ; the land is very productive almost equal to ours of the famous Banàt ; a forest extending from 15 to 30 miles is furnishing the required supply of timber and fuel wood. It is expected that within two years the branch of the new railroad now building will reach and serve also this settlement ; in the meantime the produce of the colony is transported by axle to Broadview, a village 22 to 24 miles distant, the nearest market place. (It should be understood that 4 miles of English make 1 Hungarian mile.) I wish further to remark here that a settler named John Szàbó, who is now a curator of our church, and is one of our prominent parishioners, and who, in the year 1900, settled down here with three horses, two cows and seven oxen without, however, any money whatever, is now the owner of ninety acres of land, standing high and rich in wheat, is erecting a fine dwelling house and is the possessor of a farm so productive and attractive as to insure him the highest praise of the community.

We propose to build here our school house next spring which will serve us temporarily for a church ; occasional services are held by me at Hazelwood. My congregation is paying my annual dues in parts ; I am their pastor, appointed by the Mission Society.

Let me finally say to you, my dear Hungarian brethren, that this is the country where honest enduring labour meets its speedy and adequate reward ; the despondent man who still, lingering in the old country, is forced reaching for, and leaning already on the beggars' staff, in coming here is assured to become in due course of time, by industry and enduring labour, an independent land-owner and a happy prosperous member of our colony.

My own people who are settled here since October, 1901, are willing to testify to the correctness of my assertion by declaring that :

Our God is with us,
And prosperity.

And whenever we meet in prayer we offer our grateful hearts to Almighty God for having brought us here to this blessed land and given us our new homes. We shall never forget, however, our own dear fatherland, nor the glorious history of our illustrious compatriot Louis Kossuth, nor the beautiful capital of Hungary, Buda-Pesth, and we shall ever cultivate the sweet language of our fore-

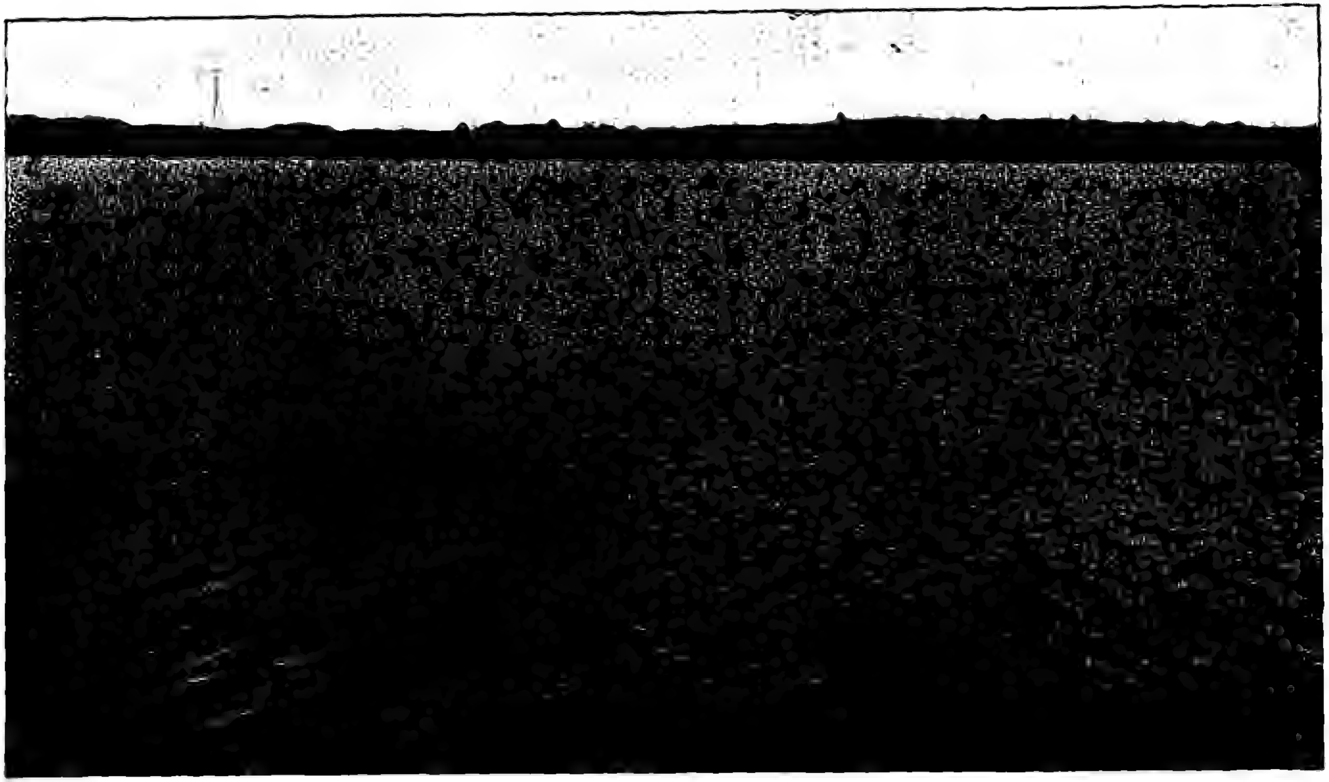
fathers, even in this far away land, and we will sing and worship by prayers to the glory of our God and Saviour also in the true vernacular tongue of our native land, Hungary.

And I believe that our labours will be always sanctified by prayers, and that the Lord will bless our efforts in doing what is right and proper for His glory and for the honour of our nationality.

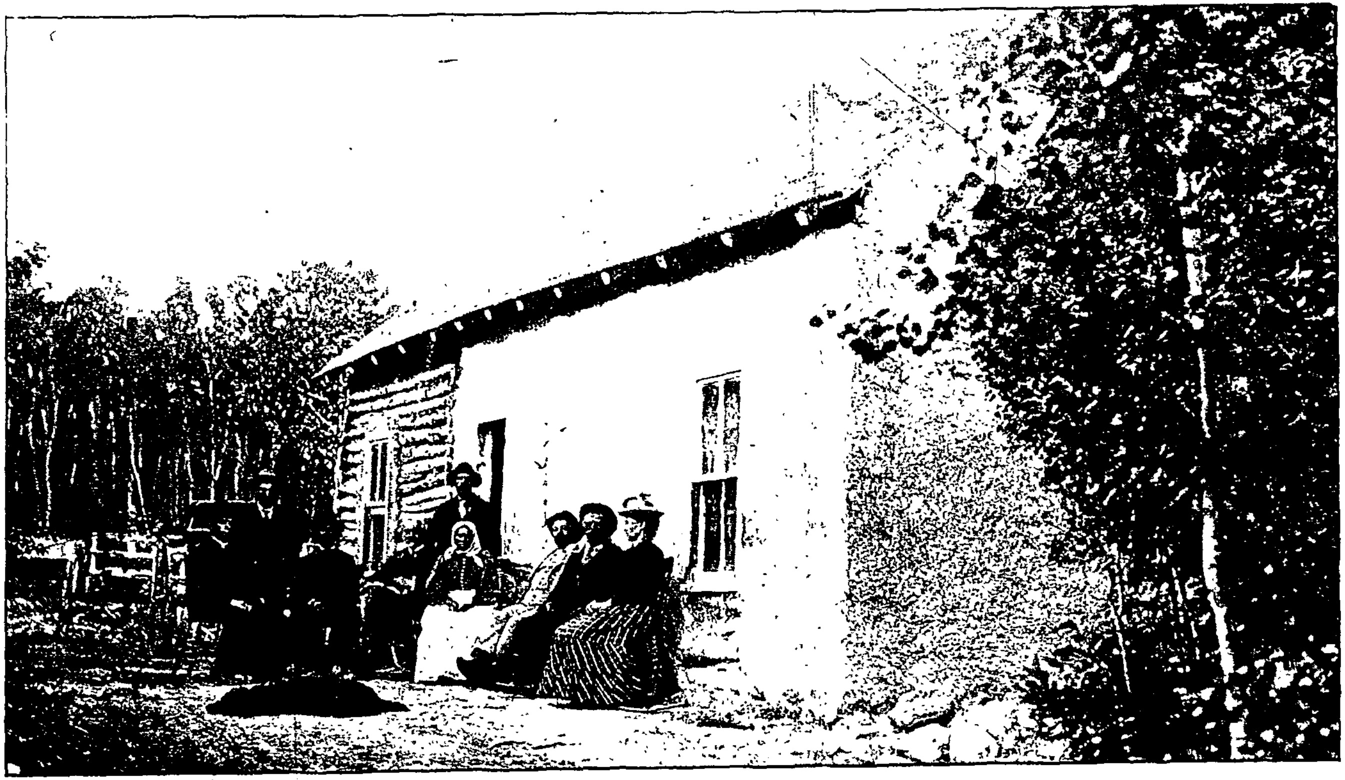
KOVÁCSI KÁLMÁN,

Missionary of the Hungarian Reformed Church for Whitewood and the adjoining Hungarian Colonies.

WHITEWOOD, ASSINIBOIA,
CANADA, July 16, 1902.



LAKE ESTERHAZ ON 7, 19, 1 W. 2nd Mer.



Home of Mr. Stephen Bartah, on S.W. ¼ 4, 39A, 1 W. 2.

WHAT SOME OF THE HUNGARIAN SETTLERS HAVE TO SAY FOR THEMSELVES, ABOUT THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST, PARTICULARLY ABOUT THE ESTERHAZ COLONY,—THEIR PRESENT ABIDING PLACE, AND OF THE PRODUCTIVENESS OF THEIR OWN FARMS, AND THE CAUSE OF THEIR PROSPEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES IN THESE DAYS.

BARÀTH ISTVÀN.

Homestead: S.W. ¼ 4. Tp. 19 N., R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Baràth Istvàn, of Hungary, arrived in the Esterhaz Colony, April 16, 1888, without any money. I found work, and with my first earnings I paid $12 entry fee for my homestead of 160 acres of fine land. The beginning was very hard, but now we enjoy the lovely fruits of it. My wife also owns 160 acres of land. I have 70 acres under cultivation, with 40 acres ploughed up. Last year we harvested together : Wheat, 900 bushels ; oats, 500 bushels ; corn, 140 bushels. I sold my wheat at the mill for 55 cents a bushel. I had also an abundant crop of potatoes and kitchen vegetables.

I own eight draught horses, fifteen head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry sufficient to supply all the wants of the household.

My farm has all the requisite implements, machinery, wagons, buggy and sets of harness.

BARÀTH ISTVÀN.

KAPOSVAR, July 20, 1902.

TAKÀCS ISTVÀN.

Homestead: S.E. 7, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
ESTERHAZ, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Takàcs Istvàn, of Vizsoly, Abaujmegye, Hungary, and my wife Galjàs Erzsébet, of Korlàs, Abaujmegye, Hungary, emigrated to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada, in the year 1896, with cash, $150.

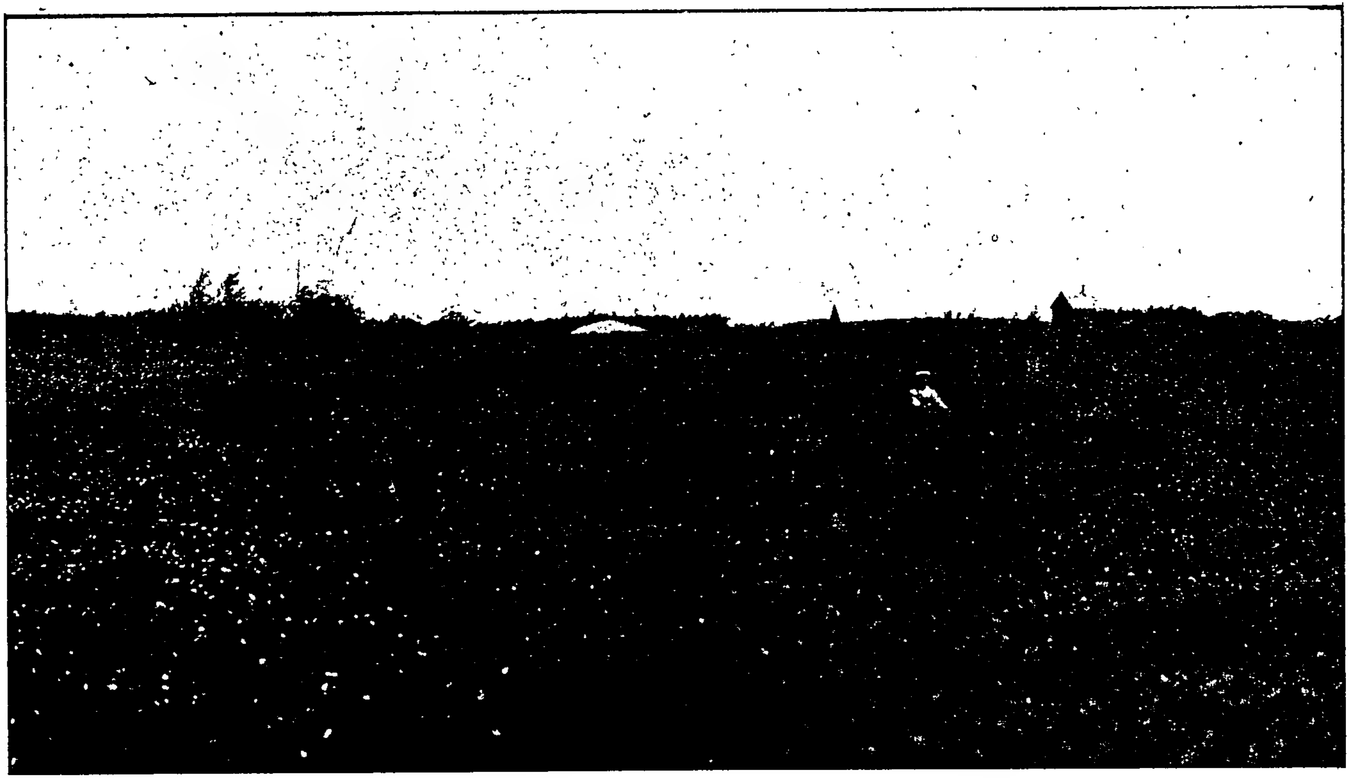
At present we possess 480 acres of fine land ; of this we have turned up to receive the seed 73 acres. Last year we harvested : Wheat, 1,081 bushels ; oats, 144 bushels, and 160 sacks of potatoes, and a sufficient crop of garden vegetables.

We have three draught horses, five head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry in large numbers. On part of the lake, covering many acres of my property, can always be found for sport many flocks of wild ducks.

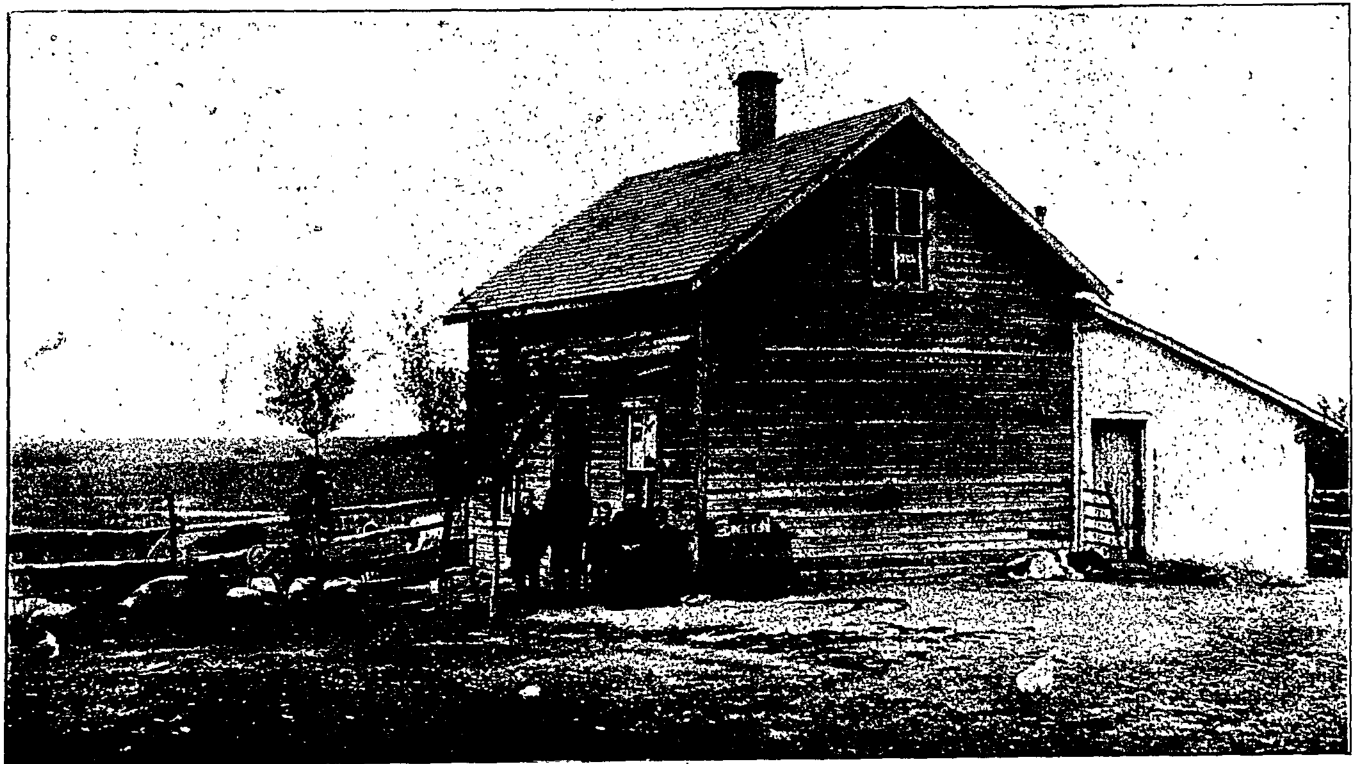
Our farm has every description of implements and machinery for tilling the land, also set of harness.

TAKÀCS ISTVÀN.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902.



HOME OF MR. S. TAKÀCS ON S E. 7, 19, 1 W. 2nd Mer.



HOME OF MR. J. LENGYEL ON N.W. ¼ 3, 19, 1, W. 2.

LENGYEL JOZSEF.

Homestead: N.W. ¼ 8, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Lengyel Jozsef, of Felsö-Mera, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, emigrated in 1883 to the United States of America. There we have experienced many serious reverses, in consequence of the then prevailing labour troubles no work could be found, and later on my only little boy, having become a victim of small-pox—then epidemic in that region—I resisted the health board authorities in having him removed to the pest-house. We were thereupon quarantined in a far out of the way building without a chance of finding employment for myself. This sad experience has had the effect of discouraging me to that extent that after the recovery from sickness of my little boy I decided of joining my countrymen, who were then preparing to leave the States in a body for Canada. As I had then, not money enough to undertake the journey, I availed myself of the generous offer of half-rate tickets, then issued to intending settlers, in the Hungarian Colony in Canada.

Upon our arrival at Whitewood, in Canada, an advance of $500 in kind, such as oxen, cows, wagons, farming implements, guns, provisions, &c., and a frame dwelling house was effected to each settler under certain agreement of repayment, and we then started in company with the other settlers, and with the whole company outfit of tents, cooking stoves and utensils to take possession of the land which was to be our future home, and which is the present Colony named Esterhaz with a population of over one hundred Hungarian families, prosperous settlers, living together happily in communities like in the dear old country.

I will not dwell here upon the hardships and sufferings endured by the pioneer settlers of this colony, in the first few years of its development and during the battles bravely fought for our existence. We are thankful for what we have so far accomplished.

At present I am the owner of 320 acres of land, of this I have ploughed up 135 acres. Last year I harvested : Wheat, 1,500 bushels ; oats, 500 bushels, and enough potatoes and kitchen vegetables for use of our household.

I have four draught horses and one colt, seven head of horned cattle, twenty-three pigs and plenty of poultry.

My farm is furnished with every requisite implements, machinery and harness for the use of tilling the ground.

LENGYEL JOZSEF.

ESTERHAZ, July 20, 1902.

SZMEREKOVSZKY JOZSEF.

Homestead: N.E. ¼ 4, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Szmerekovszky Jozsef, of Jànok, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, emigrated together with my wife in 1883 to the United States of America. From thence we came here to join the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada. We arrived without having a cent of money at our disposal.

At piesent I own 150 acres of fine land ; of this I have about 60 acres under cultivation. Last year's crops yielded me : 280 bushels of wheat, 126 bushels of oats, and enough potatoes and kitchen vegetables to supply the want of my household.

I have two draught horses, two yoke of oxen, two cows in milk and one calf. The cause of my live stock being so small in number is some heavy expenses incurred in previous year which necessitated the sale of my cattle.

My farm is furnished with every requisite machinery and implements, also harness used in tilling the land.

JOZSEF SZMEREKOVSZKY.

ESTERHAZ, July 20, 1902.



Home of Mr. J. Szmerekovoszky on N.E. ¼ 4, 19, 1, W. 2



HOME OF MR. LOUIS GONCZY, N.W. ¼ 10, 19, 1, W. 2

GÖNCZY LAJOS.

Homestead: N.W. ¼ 10, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Gönczy Lajos, of Göncz-Ruszka, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, emigrated in 1882 to the United States of America. Having found employment, I married, and in 1886 we came over here, and I was amongst the first pioneer settlers of the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz in Canada. I had then with me, and I received also from Hungary altogether $500.

It would be to no purpose to narrate here the many difficulties we had to meet at the time of starting the colony. I will only express my feelings of gratitude to God for having blessed my labours with the following returns :—

I am now the owner of 620 acres of good land ; of this about 125 acres are turned up to receive the seed. My last year's crops yielded me : Wheat, 1,400 bushels ; oats, 1,500 bushels, and for the use of my household we gathered in potatoes and kitchen vegetables in great plenty.

I have five draught horses and three colts, forty head of horned cattle, twenty-four hogs, and a large flock of poultry.

From the sales last year of my wheat and oats, of horned cattle and butter, I realized altogether cash, $1,000 or 2,500 fl.

My farm is supplied with every requisite machinery and implements, sets of harness, &c., for tilling the land.

GÖNCZY LAJOS.

ESTERHAZ, July 20, 1902.

GONCZY SÀNDOR.

Homestead: N.E. 1, Tp. 19, R. 2, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPÒSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Gonczy Sàndor, of Göncz-Ruszka, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, emigrated in 1885 to the United States of America. The following spring, 1886—however, my family having joined me meantime—we went to Canada with the pioneers of the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz. We arrived here without any money ; indeed, I had to borrow enough to meet our travelling expenses.

At present I am the owner of 640 acres of fine land ; of this I have about 200 acres under cultivation. My crops last year consisted of : 1,835 bushels of wheat, 470 bushels of oats, and about 100 sacks of potatoes, and every kind of garden vegetables in great plenty.

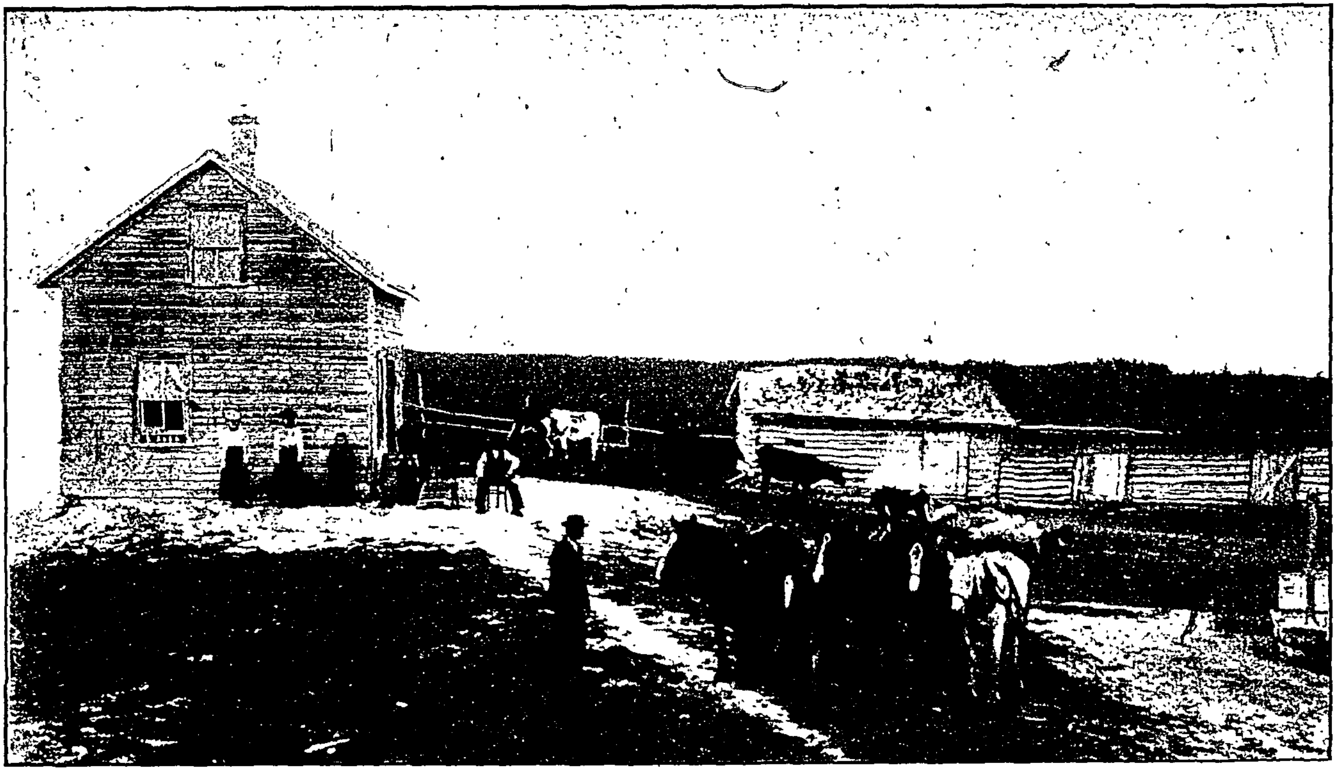
I own four draught hoises and one colt, fifteen head of horned cattle, and fiften hogs ; also a great variety of poultry.

My farm is supplied with all the requisite implements and machinery, also two sets of harness for the use of tilling my land.

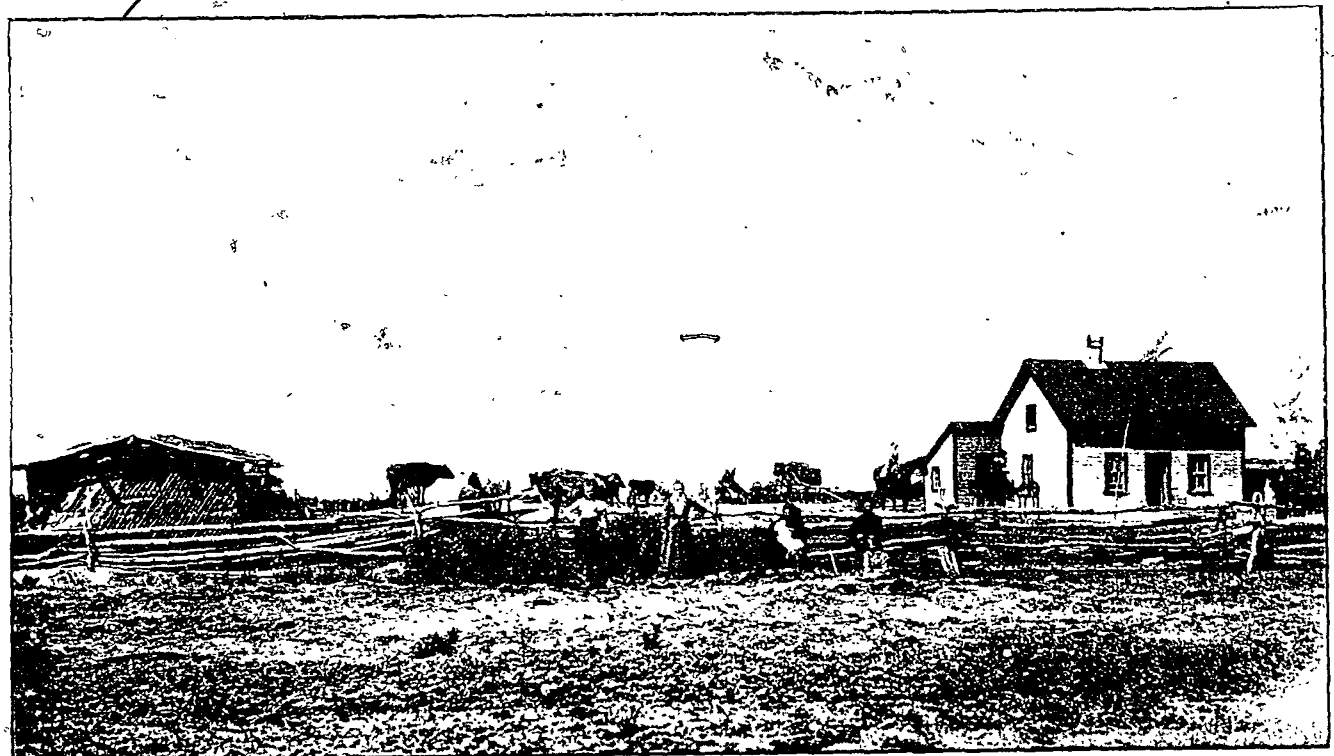
Not boastfully, but with feelings of gratitude to God, I have given the above statement of facts.

GÖNCZY SÀNDOR.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902.



Home of Mr. Alexander Gönczy, N.E. 1, 19, 1 W 2.



Home of Mr. George Hanics on S.E. ¼ 12, 19a, 1 W 2.

HANICS GYÖRGY.

Homestead: S.E. ¼, Sec. 12, Township 19A., Range 1, W. 2nd M. = 160 acres and 135 acres.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Hanics György, of Siba Sàrosmegye, Hungary, in 1883, then a young man of eighteen years, emigrated to the United States of America. I laboured in that country and got married, and in 1886 we came over here and established ourselves in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz. All my possessions at that time was ten dollars in currency.

At present I am the owner of 295 acres of excellent land, of which 195 acres are under tillage. Last year I harvested 2,100 bushels of wheat, 530 bushels of oats, 115 bushels of rye, and about 500 bushels of potatoes.

My live stock consists of five draught horses, one foal, and thirty-two head of horned cattle, besides hogs and poultry in sufficient number to satisfy the necessities of my household.

Last year I made a clear profit of $130 = 325 fl., by the sale of cream only, bought for cash at the cheese and butter factory. I am provided with every kind of farming implements, two sets of horse harness and every article requisite for tilling my land, and there are no debts encumbering my estate; moreover, with the help of God, it was made possible for me to purchase a carriage for the use and pleasure of my family, such as, to my recollection of younger days, the ordinary village landlord was never able to keep or to show in the dear old fatherland.

I have narrated the foregoing particulars of my circumstances, past and present, showing the many blessings bestowed upon us with deepest gratitude in my heart to God, for His vouchsafement of the same.

HANICS GYÖRGY.

KAPOSVÀR, July 18, 1902.

PILCSAK ISTVAN, SENIOR.

Homestead: N.E. ¼ 3, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Pilcsàk Istvàn, Sr., of Ormezö, Szabòlcsmegye, Hungary, emigrated together with my family in 1888 to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, in Canada. When I arrived here I had but $22 in my possession.

I am now the owner of 160 acres of fine land, of this I have under cultivation 110 acres. My crops yielded me last year: Wheat, 1,800 bushels; oats, 600 bushels; corn, 80 bushels, and sufficient potatoes and kitchen vegetables to satisfy the wants of my household.

I have two draught horses and two colts. My son and oldest daughter having married and made homes for themselves, and the care of little children only being left to me. Considering the burden of farming on a larger scale undesirable, I disposed of my horses and horned cattle to the amount of $360 or 900 fl. I have, however, still on my farm six head of horned cattle, twenty hogs, and about 100 chickens, ducks, &c.; besides that my farming implements, machinery and sets of harness are worth about $900 or 2,250 fl. My new dwelling house and other farm buildings are in very good condition.

PILCSÀK ISTVÀN.

KAPOSVÀR, July 20, 1902.



Home of Mr. Stephen Pilisak on N.E. ¼ 3, 19, 1, W. 2.



HOME OF MR. J. BABIJAK ON S.E. ¼ 3, 19A, 15 W 2.

BABIJÀK JÀNOS.

Homestead: S.E. ¼ Sec. 3, Town. 19A, Range 1, W. 2nd M.=160 acres and 160 acres.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Babijàk Jànos, of Örmező, Szabòlesmegye, Hungary, emigrated in the year 1890, together with my family, to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz. We arrived here without having a cent of money at our disposal.

Now, however, after a hard beginning and many sore trials, the good Lord was pleased to bless our industry with the following returns :—

I am the owner of 320 acres of fine land, of this is now ploughed up 120 acres. I harvested last year 1,404 bushels of wheat, 152 bushels of rye, 502 bushels of oats, and 42 bushels of barley. For the use of my household and abundant crop of potatoes and vegetables was gathered in, of the latter 1,000 heads of cabbages.

I further own five draught horses and two foals ; eighteen head of horned cattle, fifteen hogs, and a sufficient number of every variety of poultry.

I am provided with all requisite farming implements and machinery, and two sets of harness.

Without boasting I may mention here that I have built myself last year, upon a stone foundation, used for a cellar, a good dwelling house, one story high, with shingle roof ; and this year I was able to erect a stable 130 by 48 feet, double row of stalls without incurring a cent of obligations.

BABIJAK JÀNOS.

KAPOSVÀR, July 18, 1902.

MARJO GYÖRGY.

Homestead: S.E. ¼ 12, Tp. 19, R. 2, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Marjo György, of Hernad-Szöled, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, left my country in 1884 with the intention of settling down in the United States of America where I found employment. Later on I sent for my family, but because of the labour troubles in the States, which are causing considerable loss to the wage-earners, we emigrated in 1889 to Canada and became homesteaders in the Esterhaz Colony. I arrived here with $160 cash in my possession.

I own now 480 acres of land, of this I have turned up 140 acres. Last year I harvested : 1,152 bushels of wheat,, 492 bushels of oats, 108 bushels of corn, more than 100 sacks of potatoes and a large quantity of garden vegetables.

I have three draught horses, eleven head of horned cattle, sixteen pigs, and plenty of poultry.

I have supplied my farm with every kind of implements and machinery for tilling my land and also with sets of harness, &c.

MARJO GYÖRGY.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902.



HOME OF MR. GEO. MARJO ON S.E. ¼ 12. 19, 2, W 2



HOME OF MARCIL AND J. MAGOSHEGYI IN THE QU'APPELLE VALLEY.

MAGOSHEGYI JOZSEF.

Homestead N.E. ¼ 6, Tp. 18, R. 28, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Magoshegyi Jozsef, of Tecs, Veszprémmegye, Hungary, emigrated in 1892 to the United States of America ; having found there employment for six years. I left in 1898 for this country, and arrived in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz with my savings of $700.

I am now possessing 320 acres of good land, of which I have about 80 acres under cultivation. I may here mention that I have considerably increased my farming operations by entering into partnership with my neighbour, a Frenchman, who also own 320 acres of land. Together we leased for ten years the 640 acres, the property of a widow lady adjoining ours, and thus, with our united labours we succeeded last year in harvesting : Wheat, 3,700 bushels ; oats, 1,600 bushels ; barley, 700 bushels, besides all the supply of potatoes and garden vegetables needed for the household.

I am the owner of four draught horses and one colt, thirty head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry sufficient in number for all our wants

My farm is furnished with all the requisite implements, machinery and sets of harness. For occasional excursions with my family, I have purchased two fine carriages. A pretty Swiss cottage is our home and property. In the absence of my husband.

MAGOSHEGYI JOZSEFNE.
Born : REMBER ANNA.

QU'APPELLE VALLEY, Assa., July 21, 1902.

BARTOK ISTVAN.

Homestead: S.E. ¼ Sec. 2, Town. 19, Range 1, W. 2nd M.=160 acres.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Bartòk Istvàn, of Torna Ujfalu, Abaujmegye, Hungary, emigrated in the year 1884 to the United States of America, and after having laboured two years in that country I went to Canada and established myself in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, my family having joined me there some time after.

I am at present the owner of 160 acres of fine land, of which I have now under tillage 95 acres. I have harvested last year: Wheat, 715 bushels; oats, 250 bushels; rye, 20 bushels, and about 200 bushels of potatoes.

My live stock consists of three draught horses and sixteen head of horned cattle.

I wish to remark here that I have given in marriage one of my daughters, and that I helped two of my sons to become self-supporting farmers; they own already properties equal in all respects to mine in size and value. To illustrate: My son Bertàlan, harvested last year a little over 1,200 bushels of wheat, and Gyula, 1,000 bushels of wheat and rye.

BARTÒK ISTVÀN.

KAPOSVÀR, July 18, 1902.

BRUYÀNSZKY JÀNOS.

Homestead: S.W. 14, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Bruyànszky Jànos, of F. Novaj, Abauj-Tornamegye, emigrated in 1882 to the United States of America, the following year, however, I had my family to join me. From thence we went to the Colony Esterhaz, Canada, where I arrived with my wife and children in 1888, and with $10 at my disposal.

We own now 640 acres of fine land; we have ploughed up of this about 225 acres. We harvested last year: 2,602 bushels of wheat, 700 bushels of oats, and enough potatoes and garden vegetables for the use of my household.

I have six draught horses and one saddle horse, nineteen head of horned cattle, thirteen hogs and poultry in plenty.

My farm is furnished with every requisite, implements and machinery, sets of harness, &c., all for the use of tilling the land.

I wish to mention here that with the help of only two of my sons, I am able to do all the work on my farm, having last year made an income of over $1,200 or 3,000 fl. I have reason to be well satisfied, and not boastfully but with gratitude in my heart and to God, I make this statement according to facts.

BRUNYÀNSZKY JÀNOS.

ESTERHAZ, July 20, 1902.

BUNYÀK JÀNOS.

Homestead: S.E. ¼ 22, Tp. 19, R. 2, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Bunyàk Jànos, of Göncz, Abaujmegye, Hungary, a young, single man, emigrated in the year 1887, to the United States of America. Having found employment in that country I got married, and in 1892 we went to Canada and settled ourselves in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, with $180 in cash.

I am now the owner of 160 acres of land. I have ploughed up of this about 130 acres. Last year I harvested 1,380 bushels of wheat, 360 bushels of oats, 160 bushels of rye, and for our household use we gathered in an abundant crop of potatoes and vegetables, and I had 30 tons of hay.

I have five horses and two foals; twenty-seven head of horned cattle, and besides a sufficient number of hogs and a variety of poultry for the use of my household.

I am supplied with all necessary farming implements and machinery, and sets of harness, and for occasional pleasure excursions I own a light carriage.

The foregoing statement I have made conscientiously according to facts.

BUNYAK JÀNOS.

KAPOSVÀR, July 19, 1902.

DORY LORINCZ.

Homestead. N.E. ¼ 14, Tp. 19, R. 1. W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Dory Lorincz, of Vàralja, Bereghmegye, Hungary, emigrated to the United States of America in 1891, the following year I came here and joined the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada. I then sent for my family, and my wife brought with her $112.

At present I own 160 acres of land ; of this I ploughed up 60 acres. Last year I harvested 600 bushels of corn.

I have four yoke of oxen and twenty-three head of milking cows, and steers; also sufficient number of hogs and poultry to supply the wants of my household. My farm has all the requisite implements, machinery and harness for tilling the land.

I may mention here that my elder brother, Dory Mihaly, is also a settler in this colony and owner of a farm about equal to mine.

DORY LÖRINCZ.

ESTERHAZ, July 20, 1902.

GÒNCZY ISTVÀN.

Homestead. S.E. 16, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Gonczy Istvàn, of Gòncz-Ruszka, Abaujmegye, Hungary, have left my country for the United States of America in 1883 ; from thence I came to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada in 1889, with about $250 in cash.

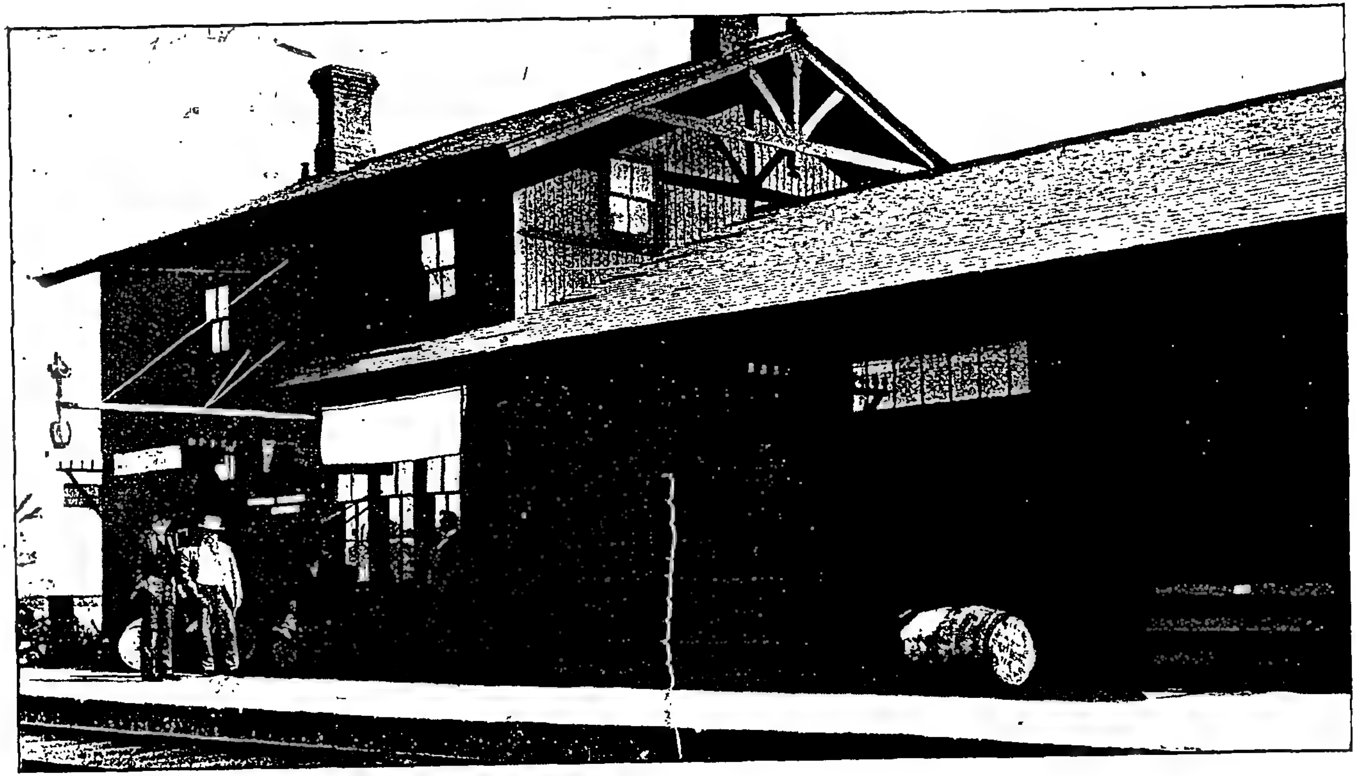
I own now 320 acres of fine land, of which about 150 acres are under cultivation. My last year's crops yielded me : Oats, 366 bushels ; wheat, 1,496 bushels, and sufficient potatoes and garden vegetables for my household.

I have three draught horses and one colt, twenty head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry enough in number for our use.

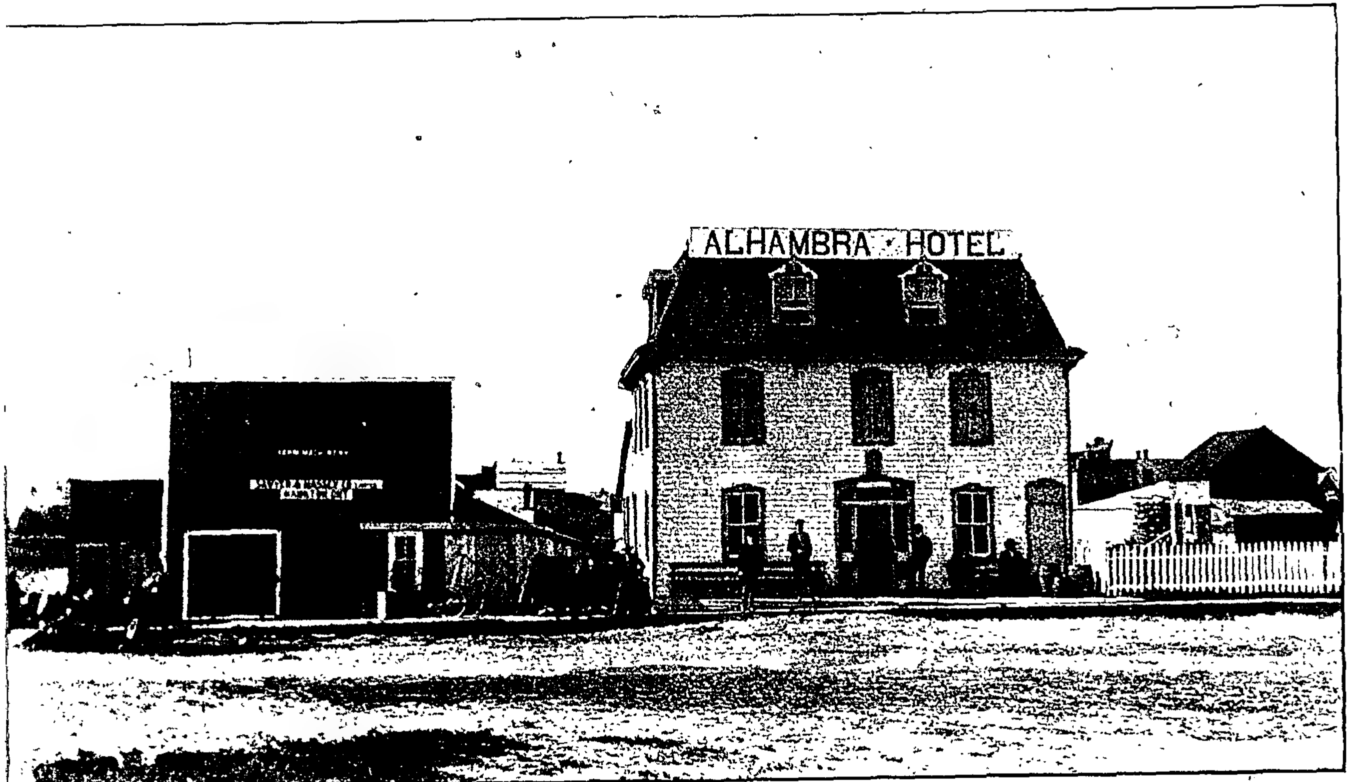
My farm is furnished with all the requisite machinery, implements and sets of harness used for tilling, &c., the land.

GÖNCZY ISTVÀN.

KAPOSVÀR, July 21, 1902.



Whitewood, Assiniboia Station, Canadian Pacific Railway.



Alhambra Hotel at Whitewood Station

GYURICSKA ISTVAN.

Homestead N E ¼ 5 Tp 19N., R 1, W 2nd M

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Gyuricska Istvàn, of Örmezö, Szabolcsmegye, Hungary, together with my dear widowed mother, emigrated in 1889 to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada. I was then nineteen years old After having worked for my dear mother for two years I got married and commenced then to farm my own land.

I am now the owner of 320 acres of fine land, of this I have under cultivation about 80 acres Last year I harvested · Wheat, 700 bushels, oats, 400 bushels; corn, 62 bushels, besides potatoes and kitchen vegetables in great quantities.

I have three draught horses, twenty-one head of horned cattle and for my family use plenty of pigs and poultry

I realized from the sale of butter and vegetables last year about $60 or 150 fl

All necessary farming implements and machinery, also set of harness supply the needs of tilling my land.

I make the above statement without boasting and entirely according to the facts prevailing

GYURICSKA ISTVÀN

Kaposvàr, July 20, 1902

GYURICSKA LAJOS

Homestead N W ¼ Section 4 Tp 19N R 1 W 2nd M

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Gyuricska Lajos, of Ormezö, Szabolcsmegye, Hungary, with my widowed mother and brothers and sisters arrived in this country in 1889, and became settlers in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz My dear mother brought with her, to my recollection, $300, I was at that time eighteen years old.

Being then the younger male child I had to help my mother with the work After my marriage in 1895, in the spring of the same year, I commenced to work my own farm.

I am the owner at present of 480 acres of land, of this I have about 80 acres under cultivation. Last year I harvested 692 bushels of wheat; 340 bushels of oats, and 50 bushels of rye, besides a large crop of potatoes and a great variety of vegetables

I own four draught horses, twenty-four head of horned cattle, a sufficient number of hogs and poultry.

By the sale of cattle and butter I made last year $225 or 562 fl. 50 kr.

My farm is equipped with all requisite farming implements and machinery and sets of harness.

GYURICSKA LAJOS

Kaposvár, July 18, 190[illegible]

JANOCZKO JÀNOS.

H[illegible] [illegible] 2, Tp. 1[illegible], Range 1, W. 2nd M., 160 acres

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Janoczkó Jànos, of Radvany, Abaujmegye, Puszta, Hungary, and now owner of the homestead above described, did emigrate at the age of twenty four years to the United States of America. Two years after my arrival I established myself in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Assiniboia, Canada. At that time all my possessions consisted of the clothes on my back. Since then I have raised a family; my children being still very young, I have taken up only 160 acres of land of this I turned up about 95 acres, of which I put in seed 28 acres, which yielded me last year: Wheat, 805 bushels, and 15 acres of oats, of which I harvested 511 bushels. I had also a very fine and abundant crop of potatoes and every kind of vegetables for the use of my household. The land I have left unsown is now under cultivation. I have about 80 acres of it in wheat and oats.

I own four draught horses and ten head of horned cattle. Last year I realized $480 - 1,200 fl. cash by the sale of cattle and horses only. There are times when my wife earns $215 - 537.50 fl. by selling butter, eggs and other produce of our farm.

My farm is completely equipped with all requisite farming implements and machinery, all of which is unencumbered by debts. This I can [illegible] to be the truth.

JANOCZKÓ JÀNOS

[illegible]

KATRENSZKY ISTVAN.

Homestead: S.E. ¼ 12, Tp. 19, R. 2, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Katrenszky Istvàn, of Torna-Ùjfala, Abauj-Tornamegye, at the age of fourteen, in company of a few of our acquaintances, emigrated in the year 1882, to the United States of America. I worked very hard for many years, and having grown up to manhood I took to myself a wife, and in 1892 we went to Canada and became settlers in the Esterhaz Colony. I brought with me my savings of $600.

At present I am the owner of 320 acres of fine land, of which I have ploughed up about 70 acres. I harvested last year : 850 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of oats, and 80 bushels of rye, and an abundant crop of potatoes and vegetables for the use of the household.

I have three draught horses and one foal ; eleven head of horned cattle and a drove of hogs, and a great variety of poultry.

By the sale last year of butter, eggs and hogs I made $80 or 200 fl.

My farm is provided with every farming implement and machinery requisite for tilling the land and harvesting.

KATRENSZY ISTVÀN.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902

KRUPPA JOZSEF

Homestead N. ½ 33, Tp 18, Range 1

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Kruppa Jozsef, of Tornyos-Pàlcza, Szabòlcsmegye, Hungary, emigrated in 1888, in company of several acquaintances, to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada. I was then eighteen years old, and a machinist apprentice.

I have arrived in this country not only without a cent of money, but towards the end of our journey, I had to borrow some from my companions. This condition of things, however, did not much inconvenience me here, because the threshing time having approached, I found work as day labourer, and it happened that during the operation of the steam thresher some delay was occasioned, also because of the unfitness of the machinist I had an opportunity of

showing my knowledge of the component parts of the machine, and how to remedy its defects. It followed that the following year I was engaged in the capacity of machinist. Not boastfully, but to mark the appreciation here shown of skilled labour, I wish to state that, for repairs done in three days, of defective machinery which the experts of this neighbourhood could not put in working order, I received $45 or 112 fl. 50 kr., and even this the English man considered cheap, because of the distant factory where such damaged machines have to be sent to for repairs.

During the four years of my labours here, I became acquainted with the daughter of a widow lady, the French teacher residing in our colony, and made her my wife. It affords me very great pleasure to state here that my dear little wife does not only master our own beloved vernacular language but has already became a Hungarian lady par excellence. But this is not to be greatly wondered at since we had in our Hungarian Colony two Catholic priests, one of French parentage, Father Agapite Pagé, and our present parish priest, Father F. Woodcutter, of German extraction, who have so thoroughly acquired the knowledge of our language that in the last few years they preached their sermons in our church in the vernacular tongue of our country.

After my marriage I felt the wish of becoming myself an independent farmer. I have accordingly made myself the owner of 320 acres of fine land ; of this I have now only 72 acres under cultivation. I have harvested last year : Wheat, 984 bushels ; 115 bushels of oats, and an abundant crop of potatoes and kitchen vegetables to such an extent as to afford my dear wife an opportunity of making a clear profit by the sale of eggs and vegetables of $75 last year.

I have four draught horses and two colts, twenty-two head of horned cattle and all the pigs and poultry we need for our household.

My farm is supplied with all the requisite farming implements and machinery used for tilling the land, also sets of harness.

In conclusion, I wish to say that with my own steam threshing machine, which I bought for $2,400 or 6,000 fl., I make the round of the Hungarian farms in our colony, and only last year's threshing operation is showing the following results : Wheat, 52,000 bushels ; oats, 17,000 bushels, including also corn, rye and barley. For this service I have received $2,330 or 5,825 fl. Of course it must be remembered that of this amount I had a considerable outlay of wages paid to labourers, eleven in number, the other seventeen helps, consisted of the farmers themselves, who are agreed to assist each other in this particular labour.

KRUPPA JOZSEF.

ESTERHAZY, July 21, 1902.

KRISTÓF PÉTERNÉ.

Homesteads: S.W. ¼ Sec. 3, Town. 19A, Range 1, W. 2nd M.=160 acres, and S.E. ¼ Sec. 4, Town. 19A Range 1, W. 2nd M.=160 acres.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

Kristóf Préterné, of Garadna, Abaujmegye, Hungary. I left the old country for the United States in 1883, there I found employment for two years, and sent for my wife and children to join me and remained in the States until 1890, when, in the month of March, we emigrated to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada, with $911 in our possession.

During the first few years in the colony we experienced many reverses, the severest of all being my sickness of three years' duration. As things changed for the better, however, I managed to own 320 acres of land, of this I have ploughed up about 87 acres. I harvested last year 1,198 bushels of wheat, 230 bushels of oats, 140 bushels of rye and 32 bushels of barley.

My live stock consists of four draught horses and two foals; fourteen head of horned cattle, twenty hogs, and a variety of poultry sufficient for the household.

My farm is supplied with all the requisite machinery and implements for tilling purposes, also with sets of harness.

In the absence of my husband I publicly make known the above facts.

KRISTÓF PÉTERNÉ.

KAPOSVÀR, July 18, 1902.

LOVÀSZ ISTVAN.

Homestead: N.E. ¼ 10, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Lovàsz Istvàn, of Göncz-Ruszka, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, emigrated to the United States of America in 1885. There I found employment, and had my family to come out and join me. In 1892 we emigrated to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, in Canada, where I arrived with $1,000 in my possession.

At present I am the owner of 160 acres of fine land, of which I have ploughed up about 100 acres. I harvested last year: Wheat, 810 bushels; oats, 530 bushels, and a large crop of burgundy turnips, potatoes and kitchen vegetables for household use.

I have three draught horses and three colts, twenty head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry enough to supply our wants.

My farm has all the farming implements, machinery and sets of harness requisite for tilling, &c., the land.

LOVASZ ISTVÀN.

KAPOSVÀR, July 21, 1902.

NAGY GYÖRGY.

Homestead S.W. ¼ 2, Tp. 19, R. 1, W. 2nd M.

ESTÉRHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Nagy György, of Ormézö Szabòlcsmegye, Hungary, together with my son Lajos, who is still living with me, emigrated in 1888 to the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada, neither of us having at that time any money at our disposal.

At present I am the owner of 480 acres of fine land ; of this there are under cultivation about 115 acres. My last year's crop yielded me : Wheat, 840 bushels ; oats, 200 bushels ; and corn 40 bushels ; and potatoes and kitchen vegetables, for the use of the household, in great abundance.

I have three draught horses, fifty head of horned cattle, besides for our wants sufficient hogs and poultry. From the sales of cream and butter only-- to the butter factory and to stores--I realized last year $150 or 375 fl.

My farm is supplied with all the requisite implements, machinery and sets of harness used for tilling the ground.

NAGY GYORGY.
and NAGY LAJOS.

KAPOSVÀR, July 18, 1902

OROSZ MIHÁLY.

Homestead N.E. ¼ 16 Tp 19, R 1, W 2nd M

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.

I, Orosz Mihaly, of Vizsoly, Abauj-Tornamegye, Hungary, at the age of eighteen I emigrated to the United States of America where I found employment and got married, and in 1888 we went to Canada and settled down in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz. The savings I brought with me amounted to $95.

I am at present the proprietor of 320 acres of fine land, of this I ploughed up about 120 acres. Last year my crops were : Wheat, 1,956 bushels, and 530 bushels of oats ; potatoes and garden vegetables in plenty for the household

I own four horses and one colt, twenty head of horned cattle, a herd of pigs and a variety of poultry.

I sold last year butter and pigs, realizing $75 or 187 fl. 50 kr.

My farm is supplied with all the requisite farming implements and machinery, harness, &c., without being burdened by debts.

OROSZ MIHALY

KAPOSVÀR, July 19, 1902



GRADING ON 16, 19, 33, W 1, NEW BRANCH LINE OF CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.



HOME OF MR IMRE PINKE ON 4, 18, 2 W 2nd Mer

WHITEWOOD, ASSINIBOIA,
CANADA, July 22, 1902.

I, Imré Pinke, of Bodayk Fehérmegye, Hungary, and now of section 4, township 18, range 2, west 2nd meridian, Assiniboia, North-west Territories, Canada, arrived in this country in April, 1895, and have settled on the homestead above described. I am now the owner of 320 acres of land, including the old homestead. During the seven years of my experience here I found the nature of the soil for farming purposes superior to any I have seen before, excepting in Hungary. The climate during winter and summer is healthy and most enjoyable ; there is abundance of wood and water. The grazing lands are excellent, and cattle are thriving well. I have built for myself and my family a large and commodious house: My family consists of my wife and five children. I have also built stables, granaries and outhouses for the use of my cattle, and for the household. Of my land I have 75 acres under cultivation. Last year my crops yielded as follows : Wheat, 900 bushels ; oats and rye, 475 bushels ; potatoes, 85 bushels. My live stock consists of horned cattle, 85 head ; horses, 15 ; hogs, 13, and about 160 domestic fowls, ducks, geese, &c. I have my own buggy, wagons, ploughs, sleighs, harness and every description of farming implements. I safely estimate the value of my unencumbered property at $5,000, and my annual income at $2,200, which includes the profits of my business in the cattle trade. Considering that only seven years ago I have commenced this business, and farming here about with a capital of $500, I think the results I have shown will speak for themselves favourably enough to recommend this country to every industrious and honest farmer of Hungary. I can conscientiously say that there is no better land for the poor but hard-working people in the world than Canada.

IMRE PINKE

JOSEPH KNOUREK.

Homestead W. ½ Sec. 12, Township 9A, Range 2, W. 2nd Mer.

ESTERHAZ, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA,

With pleasure I avail myself of the opportunity of communicating my experience to those who may intend emigrating to Canada from the old country.

I arrived here in the year 1887 from Nova Silki in southern Russia, having been born in Bohemia.

When I arrived here I possessed $110. I then took up a quarter section as a homestead for $10. Six years after my arrival I bought another quarter section of Canadian Pacific Railway Company's land for $3 an acre, which together with my homestead, makes altogether an area of 320 acres.

I have over 80 acres under cultivation, and this year I have put in 45 acres of wheat, 7 acres of oats, the balance being summer fallow.

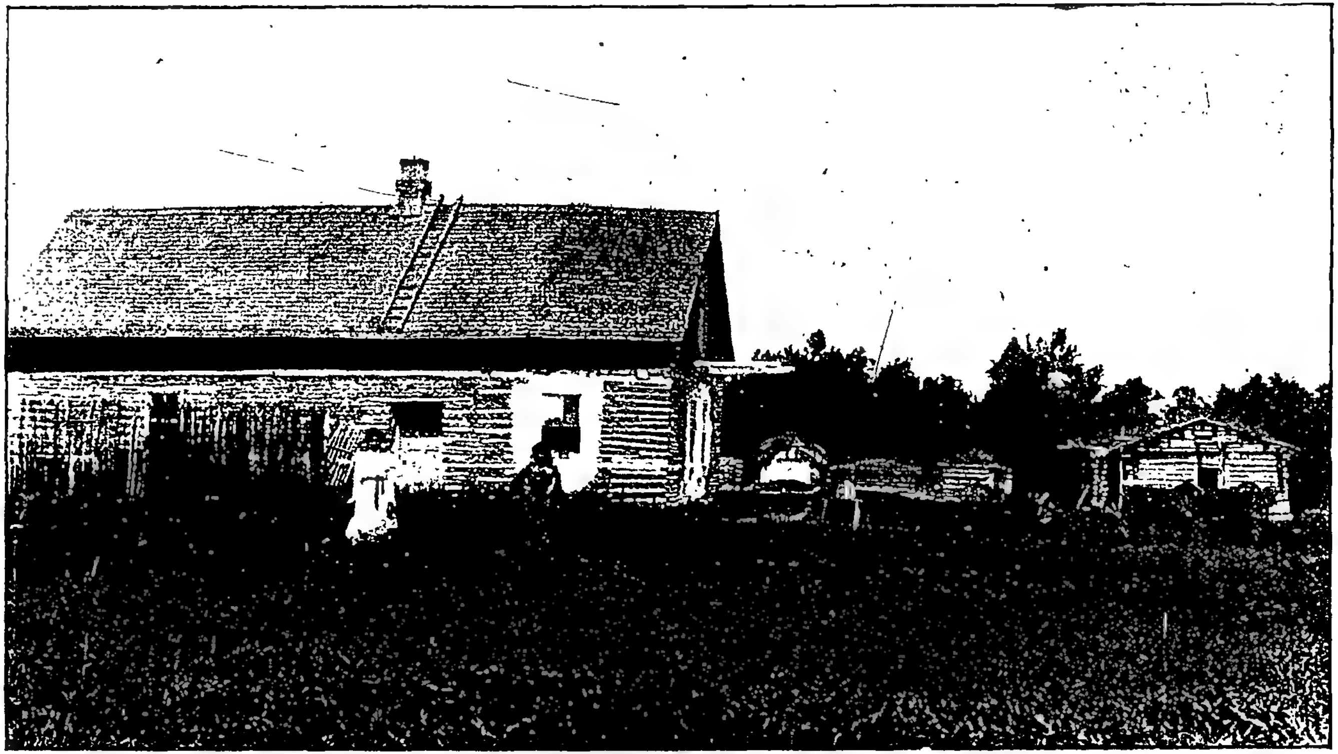
My farms have good substantial buildings, viz., house, granary and stabling, with fences all around, and splendid water.

I have 5 working horses and 2 colts, 24 head of cattle; all machinery as wagon, binder, seeder, mower, ploughs, harrows, &c.

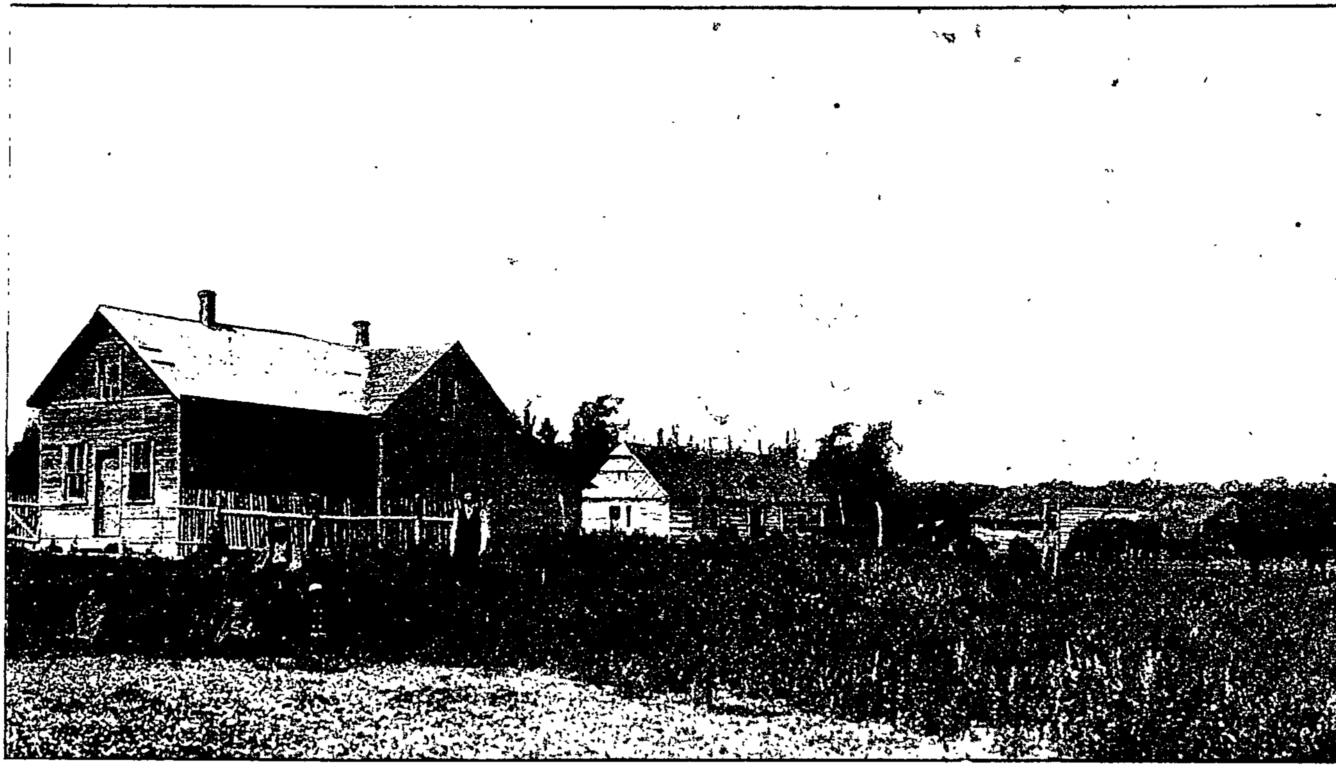
This is the country where a poor man gets a chance to make a good and comfortable living. Even if he should come without means, he will soon be able to call himself independent. For myself I would never ask for any better country and should be pleased to see a great many new settlers coming here. There is room for millions yet. As I am one of the first settlers, at the same time postmaster of the Esterhaz post office, I think that I should make use of this opportunity in telling my experience, to thank at the same time the founder of this colony, Count Paul J. d'Esterhaz, who has proved, by the selection of this beautiful colony of the same name, that he had the welfare of his countrymen at heart.

JOS. KNOUREK

ESTERHAZ, ASSA., September 13, 1902.



Home of Mr. J. Knourek on W. ½ 12, 19a, 2, W. 2.



Home of Mr. J. Hermanszky on S. ½ 1. 19. 2. W. 2nd

FRANK HERMANSZKY.

Homestead S ½ Sec. 1, Township 19, Range 2, W. 2nd Mer.

ESTERHAZ, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, the undersigned settler of the Esterhaz Colony arrived here in the year 1889 from Nova Silki, in southern Russia.

On my arrival I brought with me the sum of $450 (four hundred and fifty dollars), and a family of three children.

I then bought a quarter section from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for $245. Five years ago I bought another Canadian Pacific Railway Company's quarter for $220. This year I availed myself of the privilege that every male settler of 18 years of age enjoys, by taking up a free homestead for $10, so that at present I am the owner of three-quarter sections.

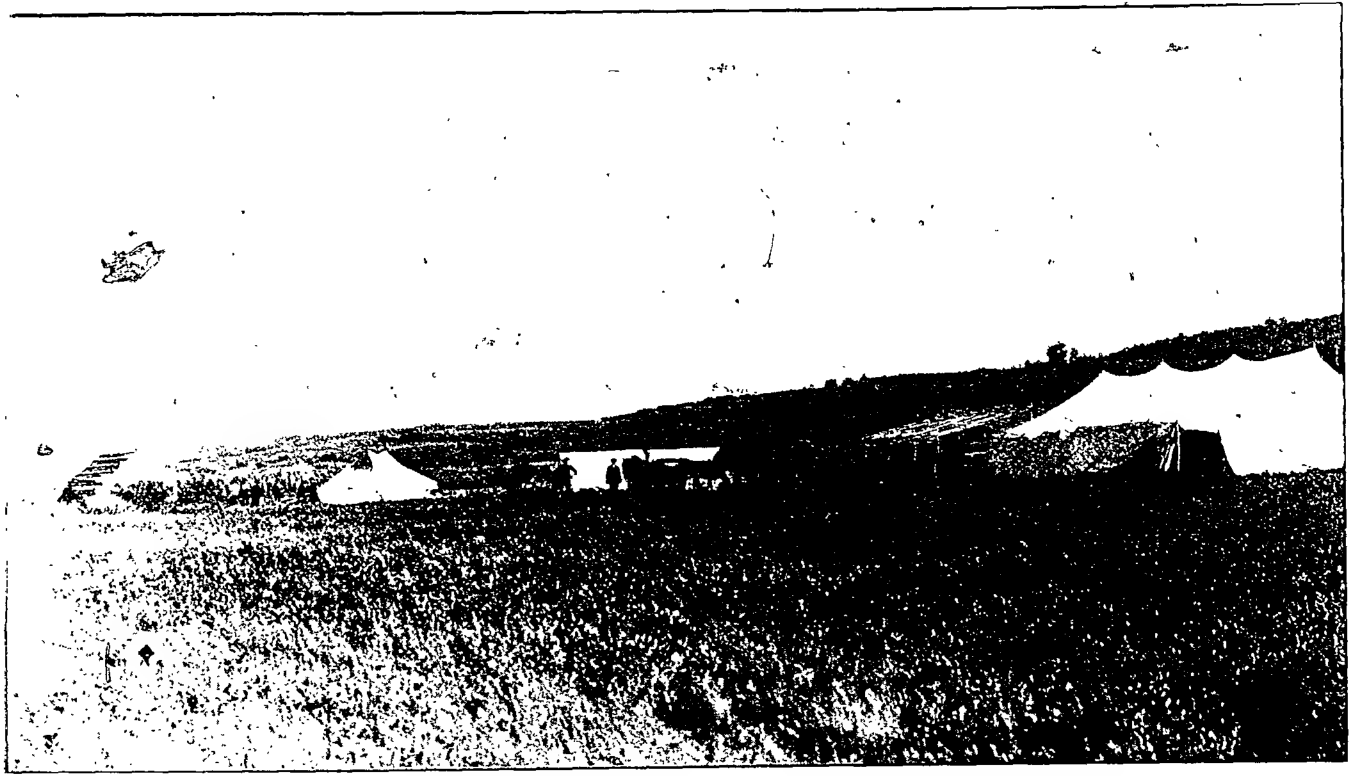
I own 5 working horses, 13 head of cattle, all necessary farm machinery and everything else necessary for the making of a farm out here.

This year I have put in 45 acres of wheat, and 10 acres of oats, a small quantity of barley and rye for feeding purposes.

I may say that I am greatly pleased with Canada, and I would never think of going back to the country I came from. There is a market for everything here, so that a man who is at all willing to work, is able to make a good living, and moreover accumulate enough profit to ensure himself an independent existence.

FRANK HERMANSZKY.

ESTERHAZ, ASSA., September 13, 1902



Construction Camp on 36, 29, 33 W. 2. New Branch Line Canadian Pacific Railway

SZIKORA MIHALY

Homestead S.E. ¼ 34 Tp 18 R. 1, 2nd M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVAR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Szikora Mihály, of Ormezo, Szabolcsmegye, Hungary, together with all my family emigrated in 1888 to the Hungarian Colony, Esterhaz, in Canada. Not only without any money, but with a debt of $70 for expenses on the road, did we arrive in this country.

I am now the owner of 320 acres of fine land, of this I have ploughed up 70 acres. My last year's crops yielded me: Wheat, 904 bushels; oats, 250 bushels, and a sufficient supply of potatoes and kitchen vegetables for the use of my household.

I own three draught horses, six head of horned cattle, and pigs and poultry enough for our wants.

My farm has all the requisite implements, machinery and sets of harness used for tilling, &c., the land.

I wish to mention here that last year I built a one-story house, roofed with shingles, for shelter of my family; it cost me about $100.

SZIKORA MIHÁLY.

KAPOSVAR, July 22, 1902

TOTH FERENCZ

Homestead, N.W. ¼ 7, Tp 19 R 1 W 2nd M

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVAR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Tóth Ferencz, of Tornyos Pálca, Szabolcsmegye, Hungary, departed from my country in 1887 with the intention of becoming a settler in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, Canada, finding myself, however, short of money in Montreal I was compelled to stay in that city for eight months and to make some wages after which time only I could make it possible to reach the end I had in view.

At present I am the owner of 320 acres of land, of this I have now under cultivation about 150 acres. My crops yielded me last year, 1,266 bushels of wheat and 200 bushels of oats, 80 sacks of potatoes, and plenty of garden vegetables.

I own five draught horses, two yoke of oxen, four cows in milk and three calves, sixteen hogs and plenty of poultry.

My farm is supplied with every requisite farming implements and machinery, also two sets of harness, for which I have already paid more than $1,000 or 2,500 fl.

TÓTH FERENCZ.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902

VERES ISTVÀN.

Homestead. N.E ¼ 7, Tp. 19, R 1, W. 2nd.M.

ESTERHAZ COLONY,
KAPOSVÀR, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA

I, Veres Istvàn, of Ormezo, Szabòlcsmegye, Hungary, emigrated together with my family in 1887 to Canada. We became settlers in the Hungarian Colony Esterhaz, having received $140 from the old country.

At present we own 480 acres of land, of this we have about 160 acres under cultivation Our last year's crop yielded us Wheat, 1 552 bushels, oats, 188 bushels, corn, 75 bushels, about 100 sacks of potatoes and every kind of garden vegetables in sufficient quantities

We have five draught horses and one colt, seven head of horned cattle, thirty-two hogs, and a great variety of poultry.

Our farm is supplied with all the necessary farming implements and machinery also double harness.

I have made the above statement in the absence of my husband.

VERES ISTVÀN
Signed by their son VERES PISTA.

ESTERHAZ, July 19, 1902

NOTE —The following are always ready to answer inquiries :—

In Europe—

Mr W T R PRESTON,

Canadian Commissioner of Emigration

17 VICTORIA STREET, S.W ,

LONDON, ENGLAND

In Canada—

MR FRANK PEDLEY,

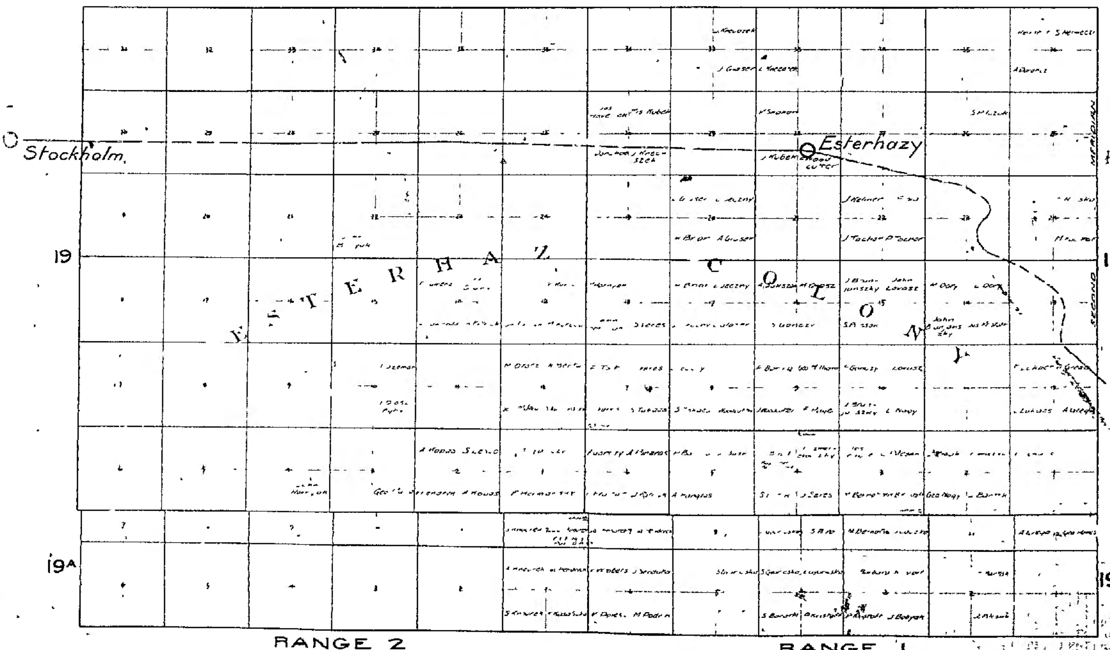
Superintendent of Immigration,

OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

HOMESTEADS OF HUNGARIANS IN THE ESTERHAZ COLONY

Townships 19A. 19 - Ranges 1 & 2



HARVEST OF 1902.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

LAND DEPARTMENT,

F. T. GRIFFIN,
Land Commissioner.

J. E. FORSLUND,
Immigration Agent.

IMMIGRATION BRANCH,
WINNIPEG, MAN., October 30, 1902.

COUNT P. D'ESTERHAZY,
265 West 130th Street,
New York City.

DEAR COUNT,—I send you herewith the result of this year's harvest of twelve of the men whose statements you have before

Name.	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye
	Bush	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
Stephen Barath	1,000	400	100	100
John Babijak	1,400	400	50	75
Joseph Szmurekovszky	1,000	200		
Alex. Gonczy	1,500	500		
George Mario	1,500	800	100	150
George Hanics	1,400	500	200	150
Stephen Katrenszky	1,400	400	100	75
Louis Gonczy	1,580	275		
Stephen Pilcsak	600	300		
Francis Hermanszky	1,000	500	35	30
Joseph Knoureck	1,050	550		
Joseph Lengyel	1,500	750	75	

I trust that this information will be satisfactory.

Yours truly,

(Signed) JOHN E. FORSLUND.